

Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development
1st floor conference room, Town Hall Annex, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA
September 27, 2017, 7:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Attendance

ATED members: Bob Radochia, Kirsi Allison-Ampe, Billy Lyons, Tom Davison, Angela Olszewski

Guests: Ali Carter, Barbara Goodman, Ted Peluso

Call to Order

Angela called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Acceptance of Minutes

Kirsi made a motion, seconded by Tom, to approve the minutes of the May and August meetings. One name change was noted for the May minutes. The minutes were approved as amended by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report/Reimbursements

Tom reported on our balance. He will provide a breakdown between the ATED and block party funds at the next meeting.

Committee Vacancies

Angela will work with the Selectmen's office to post the notice. She will notify the committee when this is done so that members can encourage people to apply. It was suggested that ATED members be available to interview applicants if the Selectmen liaisons are not available. Kirsi volunteered. The committee thought that Bob Bowes might also be a good candidate to do this.

Visitor Center

- Barbara reported on successes and challenges of the season. She suggested that we formulate a plan to be able to pay performing groups as she had cancellations this year.
- Ted reported on the success of the site as an event venue. He will be encouraging various groups to host events there.
- Old Schwamb Mill will be promoting its Oktoberfest event on Sunday afternoon. Ted and Angela volunteered to staff the visitor center.
- We will need a plan to replace Barbara next season.
- The committee discussed the effort of the Chamber of Commerce to expand holiday lighting. Tom made a motion, seconded by Kirsi, to reach out to the Chamber to see if we could participate in the lighting ceremony by opening the visitor center and offering hot chocolate. The motion passed unanimously.

Town Day Recap

The plaza was a very popular place on Town Day.

Cultural Groups Study

Tom attended the follow-up meeting to the study that was conducted by the town to plan how cultural groups could work together. In each of the proposed structures, ATED would be a promotional group. It was also recommended that the town hire a part-time staff person.

Cultural District Designation

The recently approved cultural district spans from Milton to Mill streets. Attention will be given to filling in gaps on Massachusetts Avenue and increasing foot traffic. Additional follow-up will be scheduled.

Adjournment

Tom made a motion, seconded by Kirsi, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. The motion passed unanimously.